

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS SCAG SPOTLIGHT



Legislation and Policy Affecting Our Region

October 2012

RC Report

Highlights from the Regional Council Meeting

OCTOBER 4, 2012



pictured: Public Safety and Law Enforcement officials at SCAG's Regional Council Meeting.

INFORMATION – SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS DISCUSS REALIGNMENT

The Regional Council hosted public safety and law enforcement officials from Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura Counties to discuss the impact on local crime rates and budgets as a result of the transfer of more than 24,000 state prisoners to county jails over the past year. The California Legislature passed AB 109 in March 2011 and Governor Brown signed the bill in April 2011. The Public Safety Realignment went into effect October 1, 2011 to comply with a California Supreme Court order mandating California's prison population not to exceed 137.5% of design bed capacity by June 2013. Public safety and law enforcement officials reported on the need to further study the effects of realignment, the need for permanent guaranteed funding and redefining eligibility of prisons transferred to local jails. For a list of attendees, please visit <http://bit.ly/SCAGattendees>.

ACTION – RC ADOPTS REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT ALLOCATION PLAN

The Regional Council unanimously approved the Final Fifth Cycle Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) Allocation Plan. The Final RHNA Plan represents the projected housing need for each city and unincorporated county area in the SCAG region for the October 2013 - October 2021 planning period. In accordance with state law, the Regional Council held a public hearing to receive testimony on the Final RHNA Plan and following the conclusion of the public hearing, the Regional Council voted to approve Resolution No. 12-543-1, adopting the Final Fifth Cycle RHNA Allocation Plan. The Final RHNA Plan can be viewed online at http://bit.ly/FinalRHNAPlan_SCAG.

From the Executive Director

Additional News for the Month

COURT REJECTS FILING OF AMICUS CURIAE BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF SANDAG

Previously the Regional Council authorized SCAG to join in the filing of an amicus curiae brief supporting the San Diego Associated Governments (SANDAG) in a CEQA challenge of its 2050 RTP/SCS. Other agencies such as CALCOG, SACOG and MTC also joined in the amicus effort. Unfortunately, on September 25, the trial court judge rejected the application to file the amicus brief, noting amongst his reasons, budget constraints and lack of resources by the Court as well as the Court's recognition that his decision will likely be appealed to the Court of Appeals. This means that the trial court judge will not consider the amicus brief in deciding the SANDAG case. SANDAG has indicated that should there in fact be an appeal in the future, it would appreciate additional amicus efforts by SCAG and other agencies.

IMMEDIATE PAST-PRESIDENT PAM O'CONNOR HONORED BY MOBILITY 21

On Friday, September 28, Immediate Past-President and Santa Monica City Councilmember, Pam O'Connor, received the Public Sector Leader of the Year Award at the 11th Annual Mobility 21 Southern California Transportation Summit. Immediate Past-President O'Connor was recognized for her leadership as the 2011-2012 President of SCAG's Regional Council and her work in garnering wide public input and support during the development of the 2012-2035 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). Congratulations to Pam for this recognition and her continued leadership.



pictured from left to right at Mobility 21 Summit: Hon. Pam O'Connor (Immediate Past President, SCAG), U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer, and Hasan Ikhraa (Executive Director, SCAG)

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EVENTS

NOVEMBER

1st Regional Council and Policy Committee Meetings

22nd-23rd SCAG offices closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

DECEMBER

6th 3rd Annual SCAG Economic Summit